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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Fifty-third session
New York
20 March - 7 April 1995

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-third session of the Human Rights Committee will be held at the United Nations Headquarters from 20 March to 7 April 1995. The first meeting will be convened on Monday, 20 March 1995 at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the fifty-third session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 33 of the Committee's rules of procedure the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Covenant or the Optional Protocol that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 8 which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fifty-third session. In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, representatives of States parties may be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

5. At its fifty-second session, the Committee decided that two working groups, established under rules 62 and 89 of its rules of procedure, should meet for a period of one week prior to its fifty-third session. The working groups are scheduled to meet at the United Nations Headquarters from 13 to 17 March 1994.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the Representative of the Secretary-General

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee in accordance with article 38 of the Covenant

3. Election of the Chairman and other officers of the Committee

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Human Rights Committee under article 45 of the Covenant;

   (b) Effective implementation of United Nations instruments on human rights and effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to such instruments.

7. Submission of reports by State parties under article 40 of the Covenant.

8. Consideration of reports submitted by State parties under article 40 of the Covenant.

9. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

10. Follow-up on views adopted pursuant to article 5, paragraph 4, of the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session by the Representative of the Secretary-General

The Representative of the Secretary-General will open the fifty-third session of the Committee and will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee in accordance with article 38 of the Covenant

In accordance with article 38 of the Covenant and rule 16 of the rules of procedure, the nine members of the Committee elected or re-elected at the Fourteenth Meeting of States parties to the Covenant on 8 September 1994, will make the following solemn declaration:

"I solemnly undertake to discharge my duties as a member of the Human Rights Committee impartially and conscientiously".

3. Election of the Chairman and other officers of the Committee

In accordance with article 39, paragraph 1, of the Covenant and rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. The Officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

Under rule 58 of the rules of procedure, elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of an election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

Under rule 8 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda of any session shall follow the election of officers when required under rule 17. In accordance with rule 9, during a session, the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters.

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the session. In this connection, it may be noted that the Committee decided at its fifty-second session to set up, in addition to the pre-sessional working group on communications, a working group under article 40 of the Covenant to prepare concise lists of issues concerning periodic reports scheduled for consideration at the fifty-third session; to consider any draft general comment that may be put before it relating to article 25 of the Covenant; and to further review the Committee's procedures under article 40 of the Covenant, in the light of the discussion on that subject at the Committee's fifty-second session.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Human Rights Committee under article 45 of the Covenant;

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/175 of 18 December 1990, substantive resolutions on treaty-based bodies are adopted biennially ("odd years"). Consequently, the adoption by the Assembly of a substantive resolution on the work of the Committee is reserved until its fiftieth session in 1995.

(b) Effective implementation of United Nations instruments on human rights and effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to such instruments.

The summary records of the Third Committee pertaining to the discussion of the effective implementation of United Nations instruments on human rights and effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to such instruments together with a note indicating the matters raised in the course of the discussions, along with the relevant General Assembly resolution and other documentation pertaining to the International Covenants on Human Rights, will be circulated to members of the Committee.

7. Submission of reports by State parties under article 40 of the Covenant.

Repor s received

In addition to the reports which are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its fifty-third session (see the timetable for consideration of reports under item 4 below), the Secretary-General has received the reports of the following States parties :

Latvia	Initial report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/81/Add.1/Rev.1)
Estonia	Initial report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/81/Add.5)
Brazil	Initial report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/81/Add.6)
Guatemala	Initial report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/81/Add.7)
Afghanistan	Second periodic report due in 1989	(CCPR/C/57/Add.5)
Sri Lanka	Third periodic report due in 1991	(CCPR/C/76/Add.6)
Peru	Third periodic report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/83/Add.1)
Russian Federation	Fourth periodic report due in 1993	(CCPR/C/84/Add.2)
Spain	Fourth periodic report due in 1994	(CCPR/C/95/Add.1)
Ukraine	Fourth periodic report due in 1994	(CCPR/C/95/Add.2)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Fourth periodic report due in 1994	(CCPR/C/95/Add.3)
Sweden	Fourth periodic report due in 1994	(CCPR/C/95/Add.4)

The Secretary-General has also received supplementary reports from Kenya and the Gambia which the Committee will consider together with those States parties' second periodic reports.

Reports due

The situation with regard to the submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant is as follows:

States parties whose reports were due by the closing date of the fifty-second session (4 November 1994) but have not yet been received.

Initial reports

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Gabon	20 April 1984	21
Equatorial Guinea	24 December 1988	12
Somalia	23 April 1991	7
Haiti	5 May 1992	2
Zimbabwe	12 August 1992	5
Croatia	7 October 1992	3
Grenada	5 December 1992	4
Israel	2 January 1993	4
Albania	3 January 1993	4
Lithuania	19 February 1993	4
Angola	9 April 1993	2
Benin	11 June 1993	2
Côte d'Ivoire	25 June 1993	3
Seychelles	4 August 1993	3
Cambodia	25 August 1993	2
Switzerland	17 September 1993	2
Moldova	25 April 1994	1
Ethiopia	10 September 1994	1
Dominica	16 September 1994	1
Armenia	22 September 1994	1
Mozambique	20 October 1994	1
Nigeria	28 October 1994	1

Second periodic reports

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Syrian Arab Republic	18 August 1984	22
New Zealand - Cook Islands	27 March 1985	9
Gambia	21 June 1985	20
Suriname	2 August 1985	19
Lebanon	21 March 1986	19
Kenya	11 April 1986	18
Mali	11 April 1986	18
Jamaica	1 August 1986	16
Netherlands-Antilles	31 October 1986	10
Guyana	10 April 1987	16
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	13 December 1987	14
Central African Republic	9 April 1989	11
Gabon[1]	20 April 1989	11
Congo	4 January 1990	10
Zambia	9 July 1990	9
Bolivia	13 July 1990	8
Viet Nam	31 July 1991	7
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	31 October 1991	7
San Marino	17 January 1992	6
Sudan	17 June 1992	4
Philippines	22 January 1993	4
Equatorial Guinea[1]	24 December 1993	2
Niger	31 March 1994	2

Third periodic reports

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Lebanon[2]	21 March 1988	14
Syrian Arab Republic[2]	18 August 1989	11
Trinidad and Tobago	20 March 1990	10
Gambia[2]	21 June 1990	9
Mauritius	18 July 1990	9
Suriname[2]	2 August 1990	9
Denmark	1 November 1990	9
Barbados	11 April 1991	8
Kenya[2]	11 April 1991	8
Mali[2]	11 April 1991	8

Third periodic reports (ctd)

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Nicaragua	11 June 1991	7
Zaire	31 July 1991	7
Jamaica[2]	1 August 1991	7
Portugal	1 August 1991	7
Netherlands	31 October 1991	7
Australia	12 November 1991	6
France	3 February 1992	6
India	31 March 1992	6
Panama	31 March 1992	6
Guyana[2]	10 April 1992	6
Rwanda	10 April 1992	4
Madagascar	31 July 1992	5
Central African Republic[2]	7 August 1992	5
Democratic People's Republic of Korea[2]	13 December 1992	4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines[2]	8 February 1993	4
Austria	9 April 1993	3
Bolivia	11 November 1993	-
Viet Nam[2]	23 December 1993	2
Tanzania	31 December 1993	2
Venezuela	31 December 1993	2
Gabon[1/2]	20 April 1994	2
Afghanistan	23 April 1994	-
Belgium	20 July 1994	1

Fourth periodic reports

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Lebanon[3]	21 March 1993	2
Panama[4]	6 June 1993	3
Germany	3 August 1993	3
Madagascar[4]	3 August 1993	3
Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)	3 August 1993	3
Belarus	4 November 1993	3
Ecuador	4 November 1993	3
Mauritius[4]	4 November 1993	3

Fourth periodic reports (ctd)

State party	Date due	Number of reminders sent
Dominican Republic	3 April 1994	2
Chile	28 April 1994	1
Finland	18 August 1994	1
Syrian Arab Republic[3]	18 August 1994	1
Poland	27 October 1994	1

States parties whose reports are to be submitted between the closing date of the Committee's fifty-second session (4 November 1994) and the closing date of its fifty-third session (7 April 1994)

Initial reports

State party	Date due
Cape Verde	5 November 1994
Malawi	21 March 1995

Third periodic reports

State party	Date due
Luxembourg	17 November 1994
Cyprus	31 December 1994
Bulgaria	31 December 1994
Egypt	31 December 1994
Guinea	31 December 1994
Iceland	31 December 1994
Islamic Republic of Iran	31 December 1994
Congo	4 January 1995

Fourth periodic reports

State party	Date due
Romania	31 December 1994
Uruguay	31 December 1994
Trinidad and Tobago[4]	20 March 1995
New Zealand	27 March 1995
Canada	4 April 1995
Iraq	4 April 1995
Mongolia	4 April 1995
Senegal	4 April 1995

8. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fifty-third session, prepared in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Argentina (second periodic)	CCPR/C/75/Add.1	Tuesday, a.m./p.m.	21 March 1995
		Wednesday, a.m.	22 March 1995
Paraguay (initial)	CCPR/C/84/Add.3	Wednesday, p.m.	22 March 1995
		Friday, p.m.	24 March 1995
New Zealand (third)	CCPR/C/64/Add.10	Thursday, a.m./p.m.	23 March 1995
		Friday, a.m.	24 March 1995
Haiti[5]	-	Monday, a.m./p.m.	27 March 1995
Rwanda[6]	-	Tuesday, a.m./p.m.	28 March 1995
United States of America (initial)	CCPR/C/81/Add.4	Wednesday, a.m./p.m.	29 March 1995
		Friday, a.m.	31 March 1995
Yemen[7] (second)	CCPR/C/82/Add.1	Thursday, a.m./p.m.	30 March 1995

In accordance with rule 68 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its fifty-third session.

If submitted by the Working Group, the Committee will also consider a draft general comment relating to article 25 of the Covenant.

9. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of the rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under the Optional Protocol.

One hundred and eight communications are pending before the Committee from earlier sessions. Taking into account the deadlines established by the Committee for submission of further information from the parties, 33 cases (earlier declared admissible) may be considered for the adoption of final views and 75 cases may be considered for a decision on admissibility. In addition, the Committee will have before it summaries of a number of recently registered communications and summaries of new communications registered after its last session, together with an indication of any action which may have been taken by the Special Rapporteur for new communications.

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In accordance with article 5, para.3, of the Optional Protocol and rule 82 of the Committee's rules of procedure, this agenda item will be considered in closed meetings.

10. Follow-up on views adopted pursuant to article 5, paragraph 4, of the Optional Protocol to the Covenant

Following a decision taken by the Committee during its fifty-second session, the issue of follow-up on views adopted under the Optional Protocol will henceforth be addressed under a separate agenda item. Under this item, the Committee will assess the status of follow-up activities under the Optional Protocol and examine periodic reports submitted by the Special Rapporteur for the Follow-Up on Views.

Notes

1. The State party's initial report has not yet been received

2. The State party's second periodic report has not yet been received

3. The State party's second and third periodic report have not yet been received

4. The State party's third periodic report has not yet been received

5. At its fifty-second session, the Committee requested the Government of Haiti to submit a report relating to the protection of human rights under the Covenant, particularly in respect of the application of articles 6, 7, 9, 10 and 14 of the Covenant, for discussion by the Committee during its fifty-third session. Upon receipt the report will be issued, with the symbol CCPR/C/105.

6. At its fifty-second session, the Committee requested the Government of Rwanda to submit a report relating to the protection of human rights under the Covenant, particularly in respect of the application of articles 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14 and 27 of the Covenant, for discussion by the Committee during its fifty-third session. Upon receipt the report will be issued, with the symbol CCPR/C/106.

7. The Committee began consideration of the second periodic report of Yemen at its 1372nd and 1373rd meetings (fifty-second session) and decided to continue consideration of it at the fifty-third session.